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IN MONTANA

1982
ANNUAL REPORT



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CRIME IN MONTANA

1982 ANNUAL REPORT

Montana Board of Crime Control
303 N. Roberts
Helena, MT 59620

Dr. Gordon Browder, Chairman

August 1983

 criminal
justice
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Data used in preparation of this publication was compiled at the Criminal Justice Data Center and produced by the Research and Planning Bureau of the Montana Board of Crime Control.

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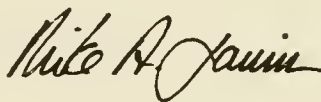
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FOREWORD

The data presented in "Crime in Montana — 1982" shows a decrease of over 3.8% in the number of crimes which occurred in Montana between 1981 and 1982. This decline almost parallels the 4% drop in the national crime rate as reported by the F.B.I. Although the lower crime rate is welcome news to the citizenry of Montana, the decrease should not overshadow the gravity of the crime problem in our state and in the nation. In 1982, 34,495 major crimes were reported in Montana. This large number of reported crimes indicates the continuing need for financial support of law enforcement agencies and citizen involvement in reporting criminal activity.

This publication presents an overview of the nature and extent of crime in the State of Montana as reported to our law enforcement agencies. They, in turn, voluntarily submit their data to the Criminal Justice Data Center. I would like to thank these contributing law enforcement agencies. Without their support this publication would not be possible.



Mike A. Lavin
Administrator

Mike Lavin, Administrator



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SECTION ONE

**MONTANA
UNIFORM CRIME
REPORTING PROGRAM**

INTRODUCTION

This report presents the most complete and accurate information currently available about crime in the State of Montana. It contains an extensive collection of facts and detailed analyses of the prevalence of different types of crime, crime trends, and offenses known and arrests made by law enforcement. It is a summary of the nature, extent, and location of crime in the state.

"Crime in Montana" addresses the informational needs of law enforcement administrators, planners, legislators, and local government officials. It also affords citizens an opportunity to assess the state's crime situation.

THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE DATA CENTER

Much of the information contained in this report was gathered by the Montana Board of Crime Control's Criminal Justice Data Center. The major functions of the Data Center are to develop, implement, and maintain data collection systems which store and analyze criminal justice system information. The Data Center is the statistical analysis center which processes Montana's criminal statistics for use by public and private entities.

Information gathered by the Data Center includes an inventory of law enforcement manpower and equipment, Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (L.E.A.A.) subgrant records, jail inspection reports, county demographics, and the Montana Uniform Crime Reporting (M.U.C.R.) system records.

THE MONTANA UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING PROGRAM

The Montana Uniform Crime Reporting (M.U.C.R.) system collects and analyzes information about crime in the state of Montana.

The M.U.C.R. system evolved from and continues to comply with, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (F.B.I.) national Uniform Crime Reporting (U.C.R.) program. The national U.C.R. program came into existence in 1930 as a result of the need for a nationwide and uniform compilation of law enforcement statistics. The Committee of Uniform Crime Records of the International Association of Chiefs of Police developed the U.C.R. program, and Congress passed legislation on June 11, 1930 authorizing the F.B.I. to act as the clearinghouse for crime information. In the late 1960s, with the availability of funds from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, individual states began assuming responsibility for direct collection of the U.C.R. data. The number of law enforcement agencies participating in the U.C.R. and related programs grew from 400 in 1930 to over 15,000 by 1981.

Montana became involved in the National Uniform Crime Reporting program in September 1978 when the F.B.I. transferred data collection responsibility from its Uniform Crime Reporting division to the Montana Board of Crime Control's Criminal Justice Data Center. This transfer has enhanced crime data collection by giving the state more control over crime reporting, closer contact with local law enforcement agencies, and more detailed information about crime.

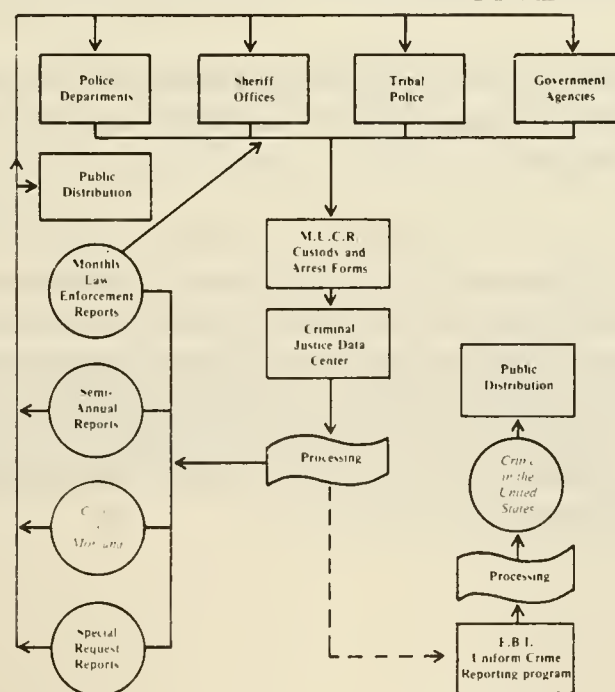
The M.U.C.R. system is comprised of two distinct data base systems. The "Offense and Activity" system summarizes the types of crimes being committed, unfounded and actual offenses, property stolen and/or recovered by type and value, time and location of offenses, the status of each case, and the number of law enforcement officers killed or assaulted. The "Custody" system records the types of arrests made, and the sex, race, and age of persons arrested.

The transfer of responsibility for data collection from the F.B.I. to the M.U.C.R. system has encouraged local law enforcement participation because the M.U.C.R. system provides contributors with both monthly and annual summaries of data from the "Offense and Activity" and "Custody" information systems. Data is furnished voluntarily by county law enforcement agencies, local police departments, and government agencies such as the Bureau of Indian Affairs (B.I.A.) and the National Park Service. This report was prepared from data submitted by all these agencies except the B.I.A. because their data was unavailable at the time of publication. Law enforcement agencies representing almost 94 percent of the Montana population provided data in 1982.

In addition to monthly reports to contributors, other reports and publications are compiled from M.U.C.R. system data. These include the annual "*Crime in Montana*" publication and a variety of special reports requested by private and public groups. The M.U.C.R. system data is also sent to the F.B.I. for processing with other state's Uniform Crime Reporting data. This information is published in the annual F.B.I. report "*Crime in the United States*".

The flowchart below shows the movement of M.U.C.R. data through the Criminal Justice Data Center.

MONTANA UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING PROGRAM SOURCES AND USES OF DATA



THE JUVENILE PROBATION INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Juvenile Probation Information System (J.P.I.S.) collects and analyzes juvenile justice data about cases referred to Montana Youth Courts. Fifteen Youth Court Probation offices voluntarily supply monthly data about the case number, date of birth, sex, ethnic origin, location of residence, and date of first referral of each youth. Information is also collected about the location and type of each offense charged, the referring agency, additional persons charged, whether the offense was committed under the influence of alcohol or drugs, youth court assigned, length of detention and/or stay in a shelter care facility, whether the youth was represented by counsel, case disposition, and probation dates.

The J.P.I.S. reports provide monthly feedback to contributing agencies by summarizing and categorizing data provided. The monthly reports are for internal agency use. An annual statewide report is generated for private and public use. The juvenile justice system information provided in this report was developed from the annual statewide report.

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are included to assist the reader in fully understanding the information provided in this booklet.

Offenses Reported or Known by Police—These are the offenses that were reported to law enforcement as having occurred during the reporting period.

Unfounded or Baseless Offenses—These are the offenses which are determined to be unfounded, false, or baseless as the result of subsequent information, action, or investigation.

Actual Offenses—These are the verified offenses which occurred. The number of actual offenses is the difference between the “Offenses Reported or Known” and the “Unfounded or Baseless Offenses”.

Cleared by Arrest—For M.U.C.R. purposes, an offense can be cleared by arrest or by exceptional means. An offense is cleared by arrest when the offender is identified, there is enough evidence to charge him, and he is actually taken into custody. The arrest of one person may clear several offenses and the arrest of several persons may clear one offense. When some element beyond law enforcement control precludes formal charges against the offender, such as the victim’s refusal to prosecute or the death of the offender, an offense can be cleared by exceptional means. No distinction is made between cleared by arrest and cleared by exceptional means in this publication.

M.U.C.R. CRIME CLASSIFICATIONS

Reporting uniformity between law enforcement agencies depends upon the proper classification of offenses by the agencies. The M.U.C.R. system follows the basic guidelines for classifying offenses as formulated by the Uniform Crime Reporting Section of the F.B.I. It must be emphasized that the following classifications are not meant to be legal definitions of offenses. The classifications may differ considerably in some cases from the legal definitions as they are written in the Montana Code Annotated. The purpose of the F.B.I. classifications is to establish a uniform statewide and national system for classifying similar offenses even though legal definitions may vary from state to state.

THE SEVEN MAJOR CRIMES

Seven crimes are recognized as being the most serious crimes in our society and the most likely to be reported to law enforcement. These are called the Seven Major Crimes, or the Part 1 Offenses. The M.U.C.R. system divides these crimes into "Crimes Against Persons" and "Crimes Against Property". Definitions of these crimes follow.

The Seven Major Crimes—Part 1 Offenses

Crimes Against Persons

Homicide—The willful killing of one human being by another.

Rape—The carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will and all attempts to commit forcible rape.

Robbery—The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

Aggravated Assault—An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

Crimes Against Property

Burglary—The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft.

Larceny/Theft—The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another.

Motor Vehicle Theft—The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

Many Part 2 Offenses are reported in "*Crime in Montana*". They encompass other crimes which, although serious, are not part of the Seven Major Crimes. These Part 2 Offenses are listed below.

PART 2 OFFENSES

Negligent Manslaughter
Other Assaults
Arson
Forgery and Counterfeiting
Fraud
Embezzlement
Stolen Property—Buying, Receiving, Possessing
Vandalism
Weapons—Carrying, Possessing, Etc.
Prostitution and Commercialized Vice
Sex Offenses
Narcotic Drug Laws
Gambling
Offenses Against the Family and Children

CRIME INDEX

The crime index has been used nationwide for many years as a standard for comparing the amount and extent of serious crime. It is the total number of the actual offenses of the seven major crimes reported.

The crime index is only an indication of the amount and type of crime occurring in a jurisdiction. It is not an absolute measure. If multiple crimes were committed during an incident and reported, only the most serious is recorded in the index.

CRIME RATE

The crime rate calculates the number of incidents which occur for every 100,000 residents in a reporting area. It is useful in comparing the amount of crime in two areas with unequal populations.

The crime rate is calculated by dividing the total number of index crimes by the population or estimated population and multiplying the answer by 100,000 as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Number of Crimes}}{\text{Population of Law Enforcement Jurisdiction}} \times 100,000 = \text{Crime Rate}$$

CRIME FACTORS

The amount and type of crime reported in "*Crime in Montana*" is based upon the number of reported offenses and does not measure those offenses unknown to the law enforcement community. A considerable volume of crime is not reported to law enforcement agencies. Many crimes are unreported because victims are unaware they have been victimized or have themselves been participants in illegal activity. Unidentified crimes can include, but are not limited to, buying stolen property, fraud, embezzlement, and shoplifting. Illegal activity requiring victim participation can include prostitution and narcotics activity. Other reasons crimes are unreported are that victims believe there is very little that can be done to catch the perpetrator, they fear the publicity of a police investigation, or the crime was too personal or private to report.

The following factors can also influence the type and volume of criminal activity in the state.

- Density and size of community.

- Demographic characteristics of the population.

- Economic status of the population.

- Influence on population stability by seasonal workers, tourism, etc.

- Educational, recreational, and religious characteristics of the population.

- Effective strength of local law enforcement agencies.

- Policies of prosecuting officials and the courts.

- Public attitudes toward laws and law enforcement.

SECTION TWO

**CRIME
SUMMARY**

STATE SUMMARY OF OFFENSES

The 1982 state summary of offenses known to the police is given on the following page. This summary presents a breakdown of the numbers of offenses reported to police, unfounded or baseless offenses reported, actual offenses, and offenses cleared by arrest. The column "Cleared by Arrest" gives the total numbers of offenses, adult and juvenile, cleared by arrest. The "Cleared by Arrest Under 18" presents only juvenile arrests. The "Percent of Actual Offenses Cleared by Arrest" is the percent of total offenses, adult and juvenile, cleared by arrest.

1982
STATE SUMMARY OF
OFFENSES KNOWN TO THE POLICE

PART 1 OFFENSES—
SEVEN MAJOR CRIMES

	Offenses Reported Or Known By Police	Unfounded Offenses	Actual Offenses	Total Cleared By Arrest	Cleared By Arrest Under 18	% Actual Offenses Cleared By Arrest
Homicide.....	28	1	27	21	0	77.8
Rape	144	16	128	65	4	50.8
Forcible	96*	13*	83*	50*	1*	60.2*
Attempted.....	48*	3*	45*	15*	3*	33.3*
Robbery	290	10	280	71	8	25.4
Aggravated Assault	1,384	49	1,335	575	63	43.1
Total Offenses Against Persons	1,846	76	1,770	732	75	41.4
Burglary	6,762	253	6,509	1,016	313	15.6
Larceny/Theft	24,902	677	24,225	4,773	1,340	19.7
Motor Vehicle Theft.....	2,302	311	1,991	667	150	33.5
Autos.....	1,299*	216*	1,083*	404*	92*	37.3*
Trucks & Buses	569*	64*	505*	172*	31*	34.1*
Other Vehicles.....	434*	31*	403*	91*	27*	22.6*
Total Offenses Against Property	33,966	1,241	32,725	6,456	1,803	19.7
Total Seven Major Offenses	35,812	1,317	34,495	7,188	1,927	20.8

PART II OFFENSES

Negligent Manslaughter.....	5	0	5	4	1	80.0
Other Assaults-Simple-Not Aggravated.	2,275	35	2,240	972	101	43.4
Arson.....	142	7	135	33	12	24.4
Forgery & Counterfeiting	645	8	637	217	40	34.1
Fraud.....	2,074	41	2,033	816	23	40.1
Embezzlement.....	18	1	17	7	0	41.2
Stolen Property: Buying, Receiving, Possessing, Etc.	110	2	108	37	5	34.3
Vandalism	10,391	154	10,237	1,233	300	12.0
Weapons: Carrying, Possessing, Etc....	379	13	366	155	8	42.4
Prostitution and Commercialized Vice .	22	1	21	16	0	76.2
Sex Offenses	1,103	33	1,070	210	26	19.6
Narcotic Drug Laws.....	860	25	835	632	87	75.7
Narcotics	58*	1*	57*	47*	1*	82.5*
Marijuana	609*	13*	596*	468*	72*	78.5*
Dangerous Drugs	148*	10*	138*	95*	7*	68.8*
Synthetics	45*	1*	44*	22*	7*	50.0*
Gambling	32	2	30	11	0	36.7
Offenses Against Family and Children ...	425	41	384	122	3	31.8
Total Part 2 Offenses.....	18,481	363	18,118	4,455	606	24.6
GRAND TOTAL	54,293	1,680	52,613	11,643	2,484	22.1

*Indicates sub-categories of offense.

1982-CRIME RATE SEVEN MAJOR INDEX CRIMES

According to the F.B.I. and the U.S. Bureau of the Census, Montana's estimated population in 1982 was 801,000. This is the population figure used in calculating the crime rates in this publication.

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS			CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY		
Index Offenses	Number of Actual Offenses	Rate Per 100,000 Population	Index Offenses	Number of Actual Offenses	Rate Per 100,000 Population
Homicide ...	27	3.4	Burglary	6,509	812.6
Rape	128	16.0	Larceny/		
Robbery	280	35.0	Theft	24,225	3024.3
Aggravated			Motor Vehicle		
Assault ...	<u>1,335</u>	<u>166.7</u>	Theft	<u>1,991</u>	<u>248.6</u>
Total	1,770	221.0	Total	32,725	4,085.5
GRAND TOTAL			<u>34,495</u> <u>4,306.5</u>		

The 1982 Montana crime rate is 4,306.5. This means that 4,306 of every 100,000 Montana residents were victims of a major crime in 1982. The 1982 crime rate was lower than the 1981 rate of 4,529.3 per 100,000. In 1982 there were:

4,306 crimes per 100,000 persons
430.6 crimes per 10,000 persons
43.1 crimes per 1,000 persons
4.3 crimes per 100 persons

The overall incidence of crime decreased 3.9 percent between 1981 and 1982 for a total decrease of 2,160 offenses.

The seven major crimes decreased 3.8 percent between 1981 and 1982. Total offenses against persons decreased 2.8 percent from 1,821 to 1,770 offenses. Total offenses against property decreased 3.9 percent from 34,051 to 32,725 offenses.

Part II crimes decreased in 1982 by 4.1 percent, from 18,901 to 18,118 offenses.

CRIME INCIDENCE COMPARISON

A comparison of the total number of crimes reported between 1981 and 1982 provides a measure of the fluctuation in criminal activity.

The number of index crimes decreased by 1,377 between 1981 and 1982. There were 34,495 index crimes in 1982 and 35,872 in 1981. A comparison of both index crimes and Part 2 crimes between 1981 and 1982 including the percentage of change between the years is shown below.

CRIME INCIDENCE COMPARISON 1981-1982

Offense	1981	1982	Percent Change
Homicide	40	27	- 32.5
Rape	186	128	- 31.2
Robbery	280	280	no change
Aggrvated Assault	1,315	1,335	+ 1.5
Total Offenses Against Persons	1,821	1,770	- 2.8
Burglary	7,144	6,509	- 8.9
Larceny/Theft	24,945	24,225	- 2.9
Motor Vehicle Theft	1,962	1,991	+ 1.5
Total Offenses Against Property	34,051	32,725	- 3.9
Total Seven Major Offenses	35,872	34,495	- 3.8
Negligent Manslaughter	9	5	- 44.4
Other Assaults	2,707	2,240	- 17.3
Arson	186	135	- 27.4
Forgery & Counterfeiting	639	637	- .3
Fraud	1,721	2,033	+ 18.1
Embezzlement	11	17	+ 54.6
Stolen Property	189	108	- 42.9
Vandalism	10,837	10,237	- 5.5
Weapons	313	366	+ 16.9
Prostitution	36	21	- 41.7
Sex Offenses	745	1,070	+ 43.6
Drugs	963	835	- 13.3
Gambling	35	30	- 14.3
Offenses Against The Family	510	384	- 24.7
Total Part 2 Offenses	18,901	18,118	- 4.1
GRAND TOTAL	54,773	52,613	- 3.9

The overall incidence of crime decreased 3.9 percent between 1981 and 1982 for a total decrease of 2,160 offenses.

The seven major crimes decreased 3.8 percent between 1981 and 1982. Total offenses against persons decreased 2.8 percent from 1,821 to 1,770 offenses. Total offenses against property decreased 3.9 percent from 34,051 to 32,725 offenses.

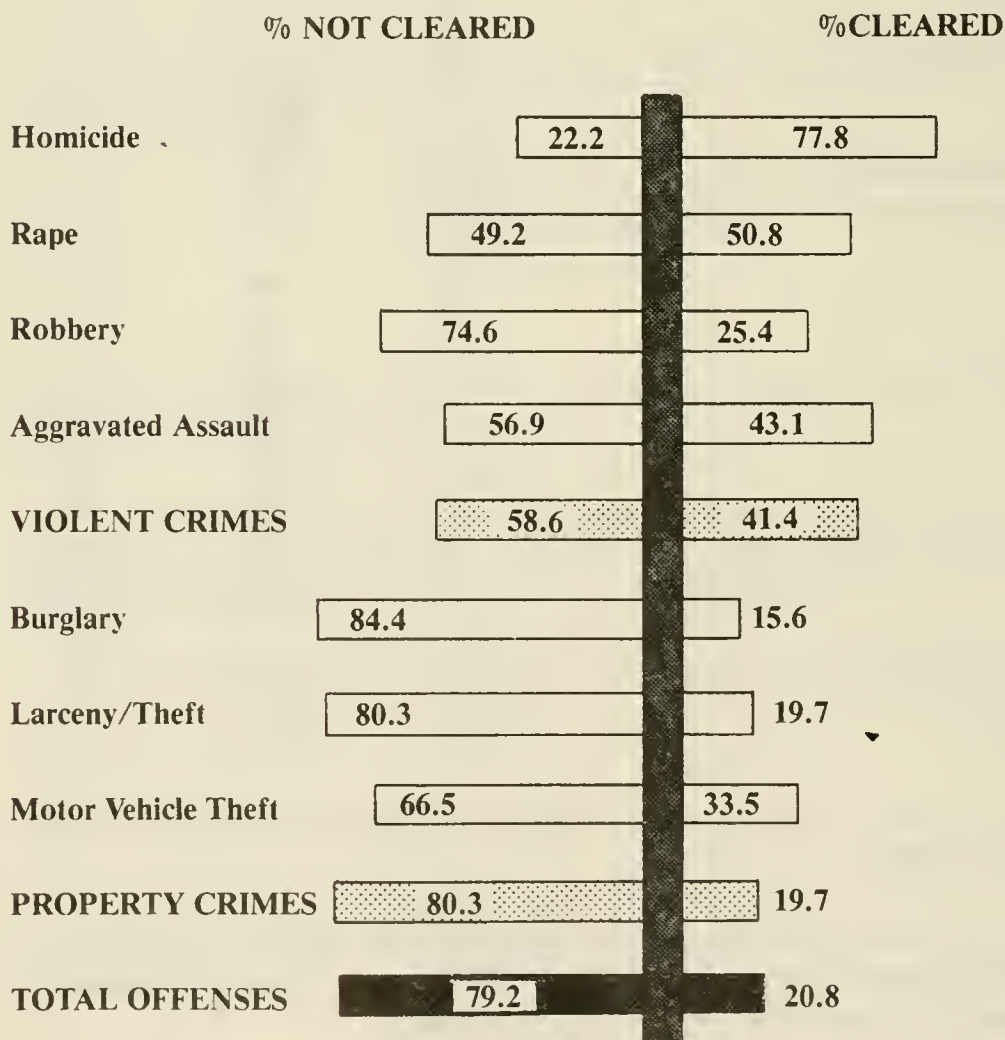
Part II crimes decreased in 1982 by 4.1 percent, from 18,901 to 18,118 offenses.

CLEARANCES

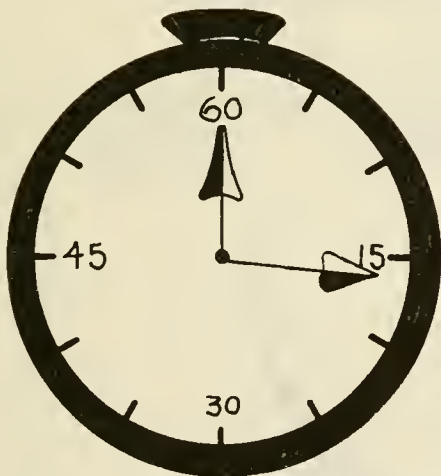
An offense is considered cleared when a law enforcement agency has identified the offender, gathered sufficient evidence, and filed a charge. The arrest of one person can clear several crimes or conversely, several persons may be arrested in the process of clearing one crime.

The following illustration shows the percentage of actual offenses cleared by arrest. Note that property crimes, burglary, larceny/theft and motor vehicle theft, have the lowest percentages of clearance, while violent crimes or crimes against persons have the highest percentages of clearance.

PERCENTAGE OF ACTUAL OFFENSES CLEARED BY ARREST—1982 SEVEN INDEXED CRIMES



1982 MONTANA CRIME CLOCK



one
INDEX CRIME
every
15 MINUTES 14 seconds

one
VIOLENT CRIME
every
4 HOURS 57 minutes

one
PROPERTY CRIME
every
16 MINUTES 4 seconds

one
MURDER
every
13 DAYS 12 hours

one
RAPE
every
2 DAYS 20 hours

one
ROBBERY
every
1 DAY 7 hours

one
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
every
6 HOURS 34 minutes

one
BURGLARY
every
1 HOUR 21 minutes

one
LARCENY/THEFT
every
21 MINUTES 42 seconds

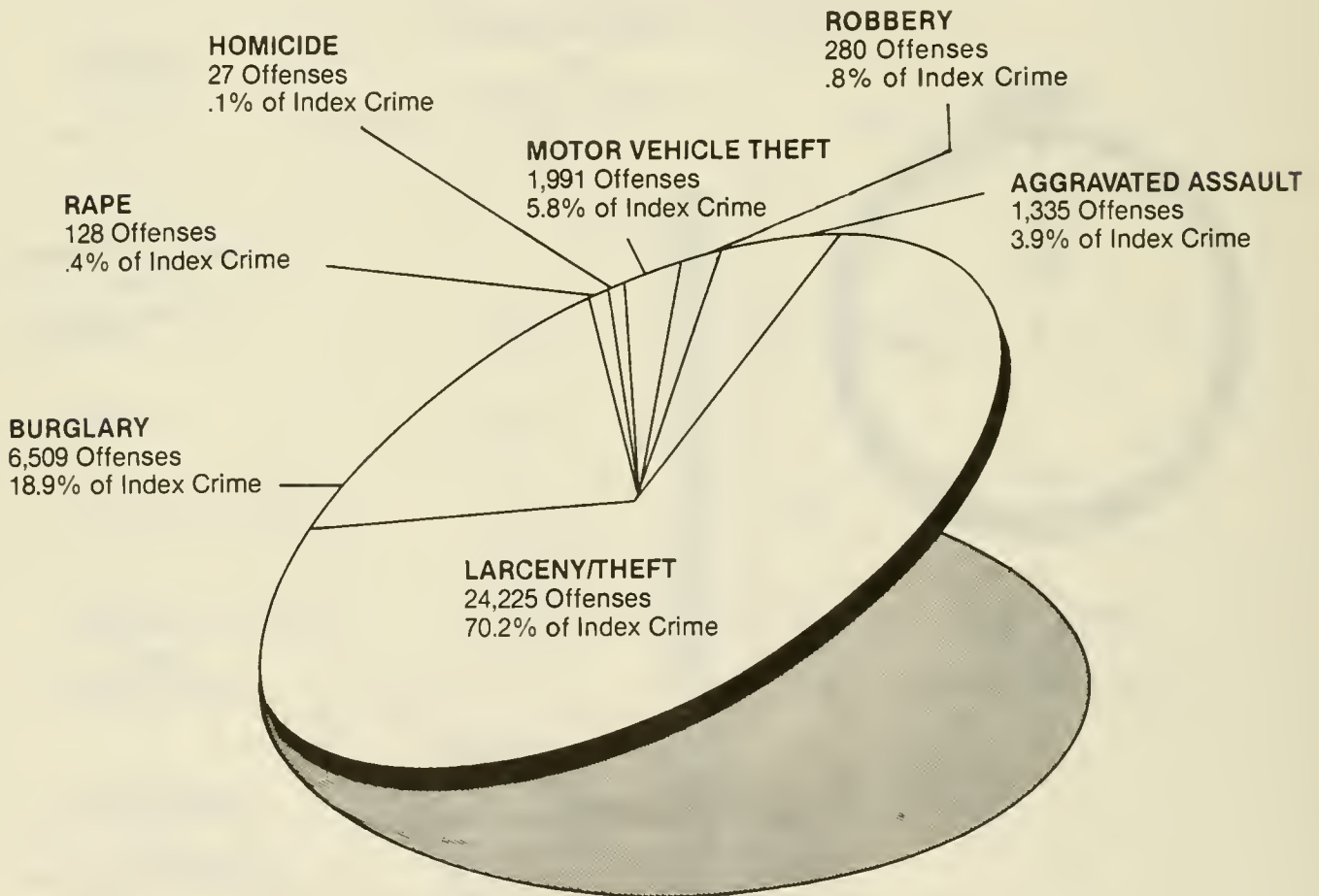
one
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT
every
4 HOURS 24 minutes

CRIME INDEX PROFILE

The circle below shows the proportion of each index crime to the total of all 1982 index crimes.

The three property crimes, burglary, larceny/theft, and motor vehicle theft, accounted for 94.9 percent of all index crimes. The violent crimes, homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, accounted for 5.1 percent of index crimes.

1982 CRIME INDEX PROFILE



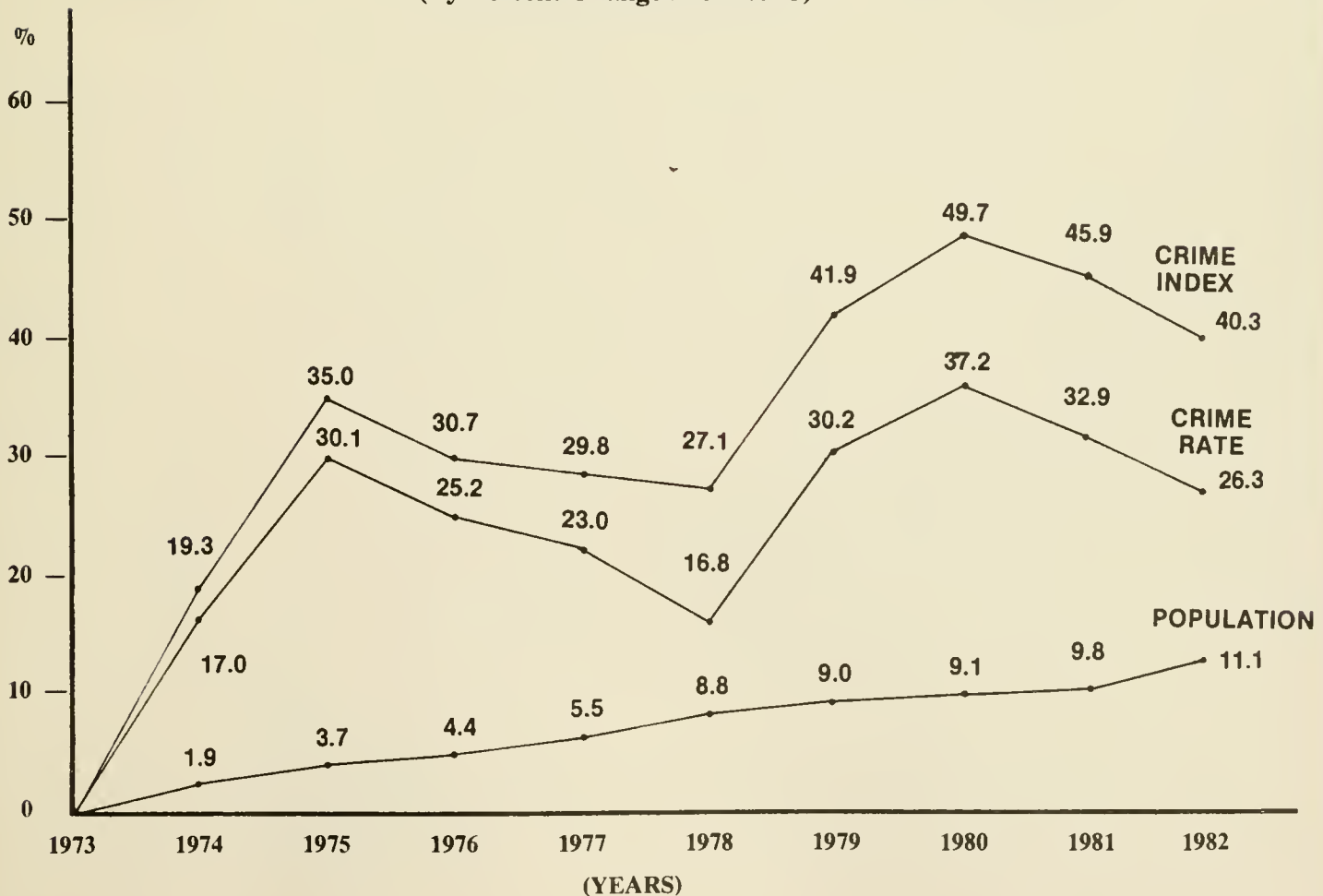
CRIME AND POPULATION GROWTH TRENDS

The crime rate and population growth trends for the past ten years are shown below. 1973 was used as the base year because it was the year the Criminal Justice Data Center in Montana began collecting both arrest and offense data using a system which is similar to the current Montana Uniform Crime Reporting (M.U.C.R.) program.

In 1973, 24,581 index crimes were recorded for a crime rate of 3409.3 with a population of 721,000. By 1982, the number of index crimes had risen to 34,495 for a crime rate of 4306.5 with an estimated population of 801,000. The 1982 figures represent a 40.3 percent increase in the crime index, a 26.3 percent increase in the crime rate, and an 11.1 percent increase in the population over the 1973 figures.

The crime index and crime rate figures have experienced much larger percentages of growth than the population has over the ten year period. The crime index and crime rates have shown sharp, but sporadic increases over the period while the state population has shown a slight, but steady increase.

CRIME INDEX, CRIME RATE, AND POPULATION
(By Percent Change From 1973)



**1982
MONTANA OFFENSE SUMMARY**

- Crimes against property accounted for 94.9 percent of all index offenses.
- Crimes against persons accounted for 5.1 percent of all index offenses.
- An index crime occurred every 15 minutes with a property crime occurring every 16 minutes. A violent crime occurred every 5 hours.
- Between 1973 and 1982, the number of crimes increased 40.3 percent while the estimated population increased only 11.1 percent.
- Crime rates reflect the incidence of crime within a population. The crime rate is a victim rate because it demonstrates the risk of becoming a crime victim. In 1982, 4.3 of every 100 Montana residents were victims of an index crime and 6.6 were victims of either an index crime or other serious crime.
- Of the 34,495 actual major offenses, 20.8 percent were cleared, either by arrest or exceptional means.

SECTION THREE

**MONTANA CRIMES
REPORTED BY
CONTRIBUTOR**

The 1982 crime rate for each county in Montana is listed below. Thirteen counties had crime rates above the statewide average of 4306.5 crimes per 100,000 of population. These thirteen counties contained 59.8 percent of the state's population and were the scene of 78.0 percent of the reported index crimes.

The thirteen counties are not a contiguous geographical high crime area, nor do they all represent high population areas. Of the thirteen, six are considered high population areas of the state with populations of 43,850 or more. These six counties are Yellowstone, Missoula, Gallatin, Lewis & Clark, Flathead and Cascade. The other nine are moderate to low population areas. In areas of low population any fluctuation in the number of crimes has a major impact on the crime rate.

CRIME RATE BY COUNTY 1982 Ranking

Rank	County	Crime Rate	Rank	County	Crime Rate
1.	Cascade	7168.4	26.	*Lake	2779.5
2.	Lewis & Clark	6128.5	27.	*Rosebud	2712.5
3.	Yellowstone	5802.9	28.	Phillips	2459.0
4.	Custer	5711.1	29.	Musselshell	2253.1
5.	Missoula	5683.5	30.	Jefferson	2231.5
6.	Meagher	5277.5	31.	Sanders	2154.6
7.	Wibaux	4815.3	32.	Sweet Grass	1883.9
8.	*Hill	4636.5	33.	Stillwater	1830.5
9.	Richland	4581.4	34.	Big Horn	1743.3
10.	Gallatin	4530.1	35.	*Blaine	1493.6
11.	Broadwater	4395.9	36.	*Carbon	1412.7
12.	*Flathead	4353.4	37.	Fallon	1397.9
13.	Lincoln	4320.1	38.	Choteau	1361.5
STATE TOTAL		4306.5	39.	Wheatland	1286.3
14.	Silver Bow	3910.8	40.	Madison	1238.3
15.	Beaverhead	3520.5	41.	Teton	1203.7
16.	Sheridan	3384.6	42.	Pondera	927.3
17.	*Roosevelt	3204.1	43.	McCone	901.2
18.	Liberty	3151.3	44.	Treasure	895.5
19.	*Park	3144.0	45.	Judith Basin	814.5
20.	Dawson	3087.9	46.	*Toole	595.5
21.	Granite	2973.2	47.	Powder River	502.7
22.	Deer Lodge	2925.6	48.	Prairie	425.8
23.	Ravalli	2880.3	49.	Daniels	207.2
24.	*Fergus	2870.8			
25.	Valley	2827.8			

* Denotes counties which did not have participation by all agencies within the county for all or part of 1983. A county's crime rate is decreased when there is less than 100 percent participation by all agencies.

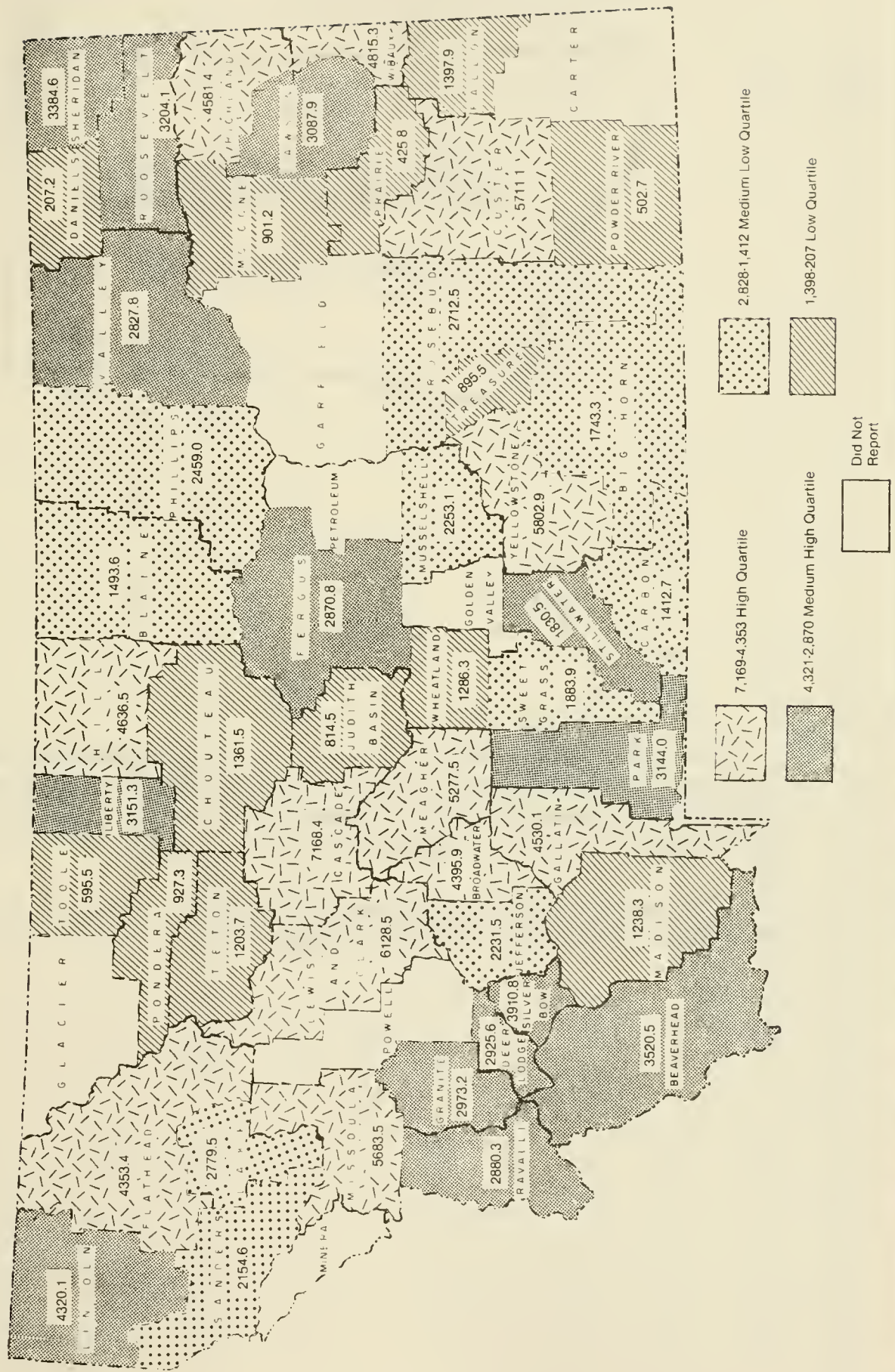
Carter, Garfield, Glacier, Golden Valley, Mineral, Petroleum, and Powell Counties did not report.

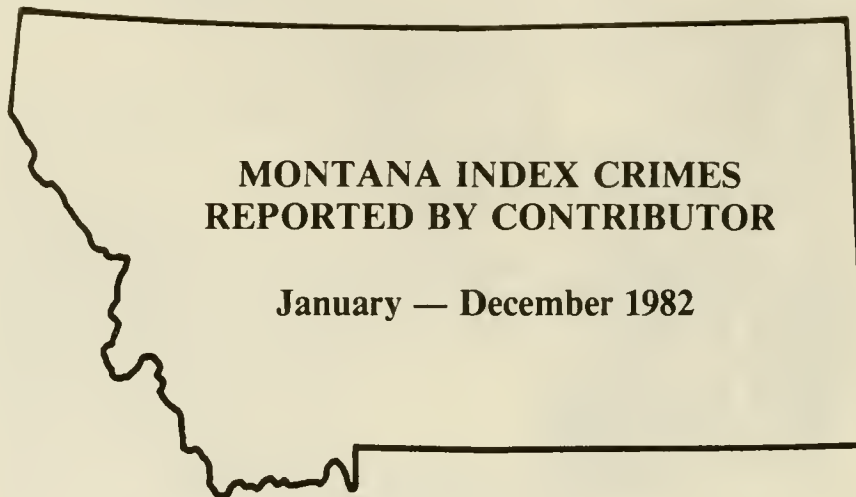
MONTANA — 1982

CRIME RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION (BY QUARTILE)

The map below shows a breakdown, by quartile, for each county's 1982 crime rate. The high quartile counties had crime rates below 7,169 but above 4,353. Medium high quartile counties were between 4,321 and 2,870. Medium low county

crime rates were between 2,828 and 1,412. Low quartile counties had crime rates below 1,398 but above 207. Seven counties did not report.





This section contains a summary of offenses reported to each law enforcement agency. If the crime rates appear to be extreme for some jurisdictions, the cause could be a low population within that jurisdiction. In communities with low populations any fluctuation in the number of crimes has a major impact on the crime rate.

The population figures for each agency are provided by the F.B.I. through the U.S. Bureau of the Census and by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

INDEX CRIMES REPORTED BY CONTRIBUTOR

AGENCY	MONTHS CONTRIBUTED	1982 POPULATION ESTIMATE	CRIME RATE PER 100,000	CRIME INDEX	HOMICIDE	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGGRA- VATED ASSAULT	BURGLARY	LARCENY /THEFT	MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT
BEAVERHEAD COUNTY	12	8408	3520.5	296	0	3	0	21	68	190	14
Sheriff	12	4329	1570.8	68	0	0	0	1	22	41	4
Dillon	12	4079	5589.6	228	0	3	0	20	46	149	10
BIG HORN COUNTY	P	11358	1743.3	198	1	6	2	34	47	94	14
Sheriff	12	6070	3261.9	198	1	6	2	34	47	94	14
Crow Tribe	0	5288					DID NOT REPORT				
BLAINE COUNTY	P	7164	1493.6	107	1	0	1	8	36	50	11
Sheriff	12	4941	2165.6	107	1	0	1	8	36	50	11
Ft. Belknap	0	2223					DID NOT REPORT				
BROADWATER COUNTY	12	3344	4395.9	147	0	0	0	7	16	117	7
Sheriff	12	3344	4395.9	147	0	0	0	7	16	117	7
CARBON COUNTY	P	8282	1412.7	117	0	0	0	11	37	63	6
Sheriff	11	6342	1450.6	92	0	0	0	9	27	52	4
Red Lodge	12	1940	1288.7	25	0	0	0	2	10	11	2
CARTER COUNTY	0	1845									
Sheriff	0	1845					DID NOT REPORT				
CASCADE COUNTY	12	82641	7168.4	5924	1	9	58	127	1268	4043	418
Sheriff	12	23823	2594.1	618	0	3	12	75	108	271	149
Great Falls	12	57973	9124.9	5290	1	6	46	52	1158	3759	268
Belt	12	845	1893.5	16	0	0	0	0	2	13	1
CHOTEAU COUNTY	12	6243	1361.5	85	0	0	0	0	24	55	6
Sheriff	12	4504	1309.9	59	0	0	0	0	19	35	5
Fort Benton	12	1739	1495.1	26	0	0	0	0	5	20	1
CUSTER COUNTY	12	13395	5711.1	765	0	6	3	28	195	492	41
Sheriff	12	3571	3052.4	109	0	0	0	3	32	68	6
Miles City	12	9824	6677.5	656	0	6	3	25	163	424	35
DANIELS COUNTY	12	2896	207.2	6	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Sheriff	12	2896	207.2	6	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
DAWSON COUNTY	12	12144	3087.9	375	0	0	2	8	30	300	35
Sheriff	12	5963	2029.2	121	0	0	1	2	4	105	9
Glendive	12	6181	4109.4	254	0	0	1	6	26	195	26
DEER LODGE COUNTY/ ANACONDA	12	12818	2925.6	375	0	0	0	16	125	212	22
Sheriff	12	12818	2925.6	375	0	0	0	16	125	212	22
FALLON COUNTY	12	3863	1397.9	54	0	0	0	3	4	30	17
Sheriff	12	1447	691.1	10	0	0	0	1	1	4	4
Baker	12	2416	1821.2	44	0	0	0	2	3	26	13
FERGUS COUNTY	P	13376	2870.8	384	0	2	0	40	55	273	14
Sheriff	12	6121	588.1	36	0	0	0	2	6	27	1
Lewistown	10	7255	4796.7	348	0	2	0	38	49	246	13

See notes at end of table

AGENCY	MONTHS CONTRIB- UTED	1982 POPULA- TION ESTIMATE	CRIME RATE PER 100,000	CRIME INDEX	HOMICIDE	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGGRA- VATED ASSAULT	BURGLARY	LARCENY /THEFT	MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT
FLATHEAD COUNTY	P	52740	4353.4	2296	4	12	10	111	462	1588	109
Sheriff	12	35334	3025.4	1069	4	10	2	50	285	670	48
Columbia Falls	7	3180	2327.0	74	0	1	1	5	17	42	8
Kalispell	12	10555	8289.9	875	0	1	4	52	107	670	41
Whitefish	12	3671	7572.9	278	0	0	3	4	53	206	12
GALLATIN COUNTY	12	43884	4530.1	1988	0	1	8	97	292	1464	126
Sheriff	12	20986	2334.9	490	0	0	3	36	102	313	36
Bozeman	12	22148	6149.5	1362	0	0	5	55	174	1059	69
West Yellowstone	12	750	18133.3	136	0	1	0	6	16	92	21
GARFIELD COUNTY	0	1690									
Sheriff	0	1690						DID NOT REPORT			
GLACIER COUNTY	0	9902									
Sheriff	0	3347						DID NOT REPORT			
Blackfeet Tribe	0	6555						DID NOT REPORT			
GOLDEN VALLEY COUNTY	0	1042									
Sheriff	0	1042						DID NOT REPORT			
GRANITE COUNTY	12	2758	2973.2	82	1	0	2	3	15	55	6
Sheriff	12	2758	2973.2	82	1	0	2	3	15	55	6
HILL COUNTY	P	18376	4636.5	852	0	2	10	11	127	658	44
Sheriff	12	5408	1701.2	92	0	1	1	5	29	53	3
Rocky Boy Tribe	0	1857						DID NOT REPORT			
Havre	12	11111	6840.1	760	0	1	9	6	98	605	41
JEFFERSON COUNTY	12	7215	2231.5	161	2	1	0	25	26	102	5
Sheriff	12	5738	1777.6	102	1	1	0	17	15	64	4
Boulder	12	1477	3994.6	59	1	0	0	8	11	38	1
JUDITH BASIN COUNTY	12	2701	814.5	22	0	0	1	1	6	14	0
Sheriff	12	2701	814.5	22	0	0	1	1	6	14	0
LAKE COUNTY	P	19572	2779.5	544	1	5	6	17	121	335	59
Sheriff	12	13547	4015.6	544	1	5	6	17	121	335	59
Flathead Tribe	0	6025						DID NOT REPORT			
LEWIS & CLARK COUNTY	12	44122	6128.5	2704	1	13	29	84	321	2150	106
Sheriff	12	18029	3078.4	555	1	5	3	33	88	394	31
East Helena	12	1684	5106.9	86	0	0	0	1	12	71	2
Helena	12	24409	8451.8	2063	0	8	26	50	221	1685	73
LIBERTY COUNTY	12	2380	3151.3	75	0	0	0	1	10	55	9
Sheriff	12	2380	3151.3	75	0	0	0	1	10	55	9
LINCOLN COUNTY	12	18171	4320.1	785	0	3	1	41	157	538	45
Sheriff	12	17046	4394.0	749	0	3	1	38	144	523	40
Troy	12	1125	3200.0	36	0	0	0	3	13	15	5
McCONE COUNTY	12	2774	901.2	25	0	0	0	2	2	19	2
Sheriff	12	2774	901.2	25	0	0	0	2	2	19	2

See notes at end of table

AGENCY	MONTHS CONTRIB- UTED	1982 POPULA- TION ESTIMATE	CRIME RATE PER 100,000	CRIME INDEX	HOMICIDE	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGGRA- VATED ASSAULT	BURGLARY	LARCENY /THEFT	MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT
MADISON COUNTY	12	5572	1238.3	69	0	0	0	5	15	46	3
Sheriff	12	5572	1238.3	69	0	0	0	5	15	46	3
MEAGHER COUNTY	12	2198	5277.5	116	0	0	3	7	19	78	9
Sheriff	12	2198	5277.5	116	0	0	3	7	19	78	9
MINERAL COUNTY	0	3765									
Sheriff	0	3765					DID NOT REPORT				
MISSOULA COUNTY	12	75147	5683.5	4271	3	23	28	89	712	3238	178
Sheriff	12	43649	2517.8	1099	0	7	7	26	254	754	51
Missoula	12	31498	10070.5	3172	3	16	21	63	458	2484	127
MUSSELSHELL COUNTY	12	4527	2253.1	102	0	1	0	6	28	57	10
Sheriff	12	4527	2253.1	102	0	1	0	6	28	57	10
PARK COUNTY	0	12977	3144.0	408	0	0	1	6	51	332	18
Sheriff	0	5825					DID NOT REPORT				
Livingston	12	7172	5688.8	408	0	0	1	6	51	332	18
PETROLEUM COUNTY	0	673									
Sheriff	0	673					DID NOT REPORT				
PHILLIPS COUNTY	12	5490	2459.0	135	0	0	0	13	8	101	13
Sheriff	12	3066	2478.8	76	0	0	0	9	8	46	13
Malta	12	2424	2434.0	59	0	0	0	4	0	55	0
PONDERA COUNTY	12	6902	927.3	64	1	1	0	2	5	47	8
Sheriff	12	3752	1545.8	58	1	1	0	2	5	41	8
Conrad	12	3150	190.5	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	0
POWDER RIVER COUNTY	12	2586	502.7	13	0	0	0	1	7	5	0
Sheriff	12	2586	502.7	13	0	0	0	1	7	5	0
POWELL COUNTY	0	7111									
Sheriff	0	7111					DID NOT REPORT				
PRAIRIE COUNTY	12	1879	425.8	8	0	0	0	2	1	4	1
Sheriff	12	1879	425.8	8	0	0	0	2	1	4	1
RAVALLI COUNTY	12	22984	2880.3	662	1	0	2	52	85	498	24
Sheriff	12	19045	2131.8	406	1	0	1	41	58	239	16
Stevensville	12	1216	4687.5	57	0	0	0	7	6	42	2
Hamilton	12	2723	7308.1	199	0	0	1	4	21	167	6
RICHLAND COUNTY	12	12529	4581.4	574	0	0	3	20	72	438	41
Sheriff	12	6664	2881.2	192	0	0	1	12	31	135	13
Sidney	12	5865	6513.2	382	0	0	2	8	41	303	28
ROOSEVELT COUNTY	P	10705	3204.1	343	1	1	0	12	51	246	32
Sheriff	12	6544	4859.4	318	1	1	0	11	41	234	30
Fort Peck Tribe	0	5022					DID NOT REPORT				
Poplar	12	3149	793.9	25	0	0	0	1	10	12	2

See notes at end of table

AGENCY	MONTHS CONTRIB- UTED	1982 POPULA- TION ESTIMATE	CRIME RATE PER 100,000	CRIME INDEX	HOMICIDE	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGGRA- VATED ASSAULT	BURGLARY	LARCENY /THEFT	MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT
ROSEBUD COUNTY	P	10212	2712.5	277	0	0	0	2	52	201	22
Sheriff	12	7015	3948.7	277	0	0	0	2	52	201	22
Northern Cheyenne	0	3197									
DID NOT REPORT											
SANDERS COUNTY	12	8772	2154.6	189	5	1	0	16	32	125	10
Sheriff	12	8156	1826.9	149	5	0	0	14	27	98	5
Hot Springs	12	616	6493.5	40	0	1	0	2	5	27	5
SHERIDAN COUNTY	12	5525	3384.6	187	0	0	3	11	46	119	8
Sheriff	12	3009	1429.0	43	0	0	3	0	21	19	0
Plentywood	12	2516	5723.4	144	0	0	0	11	25	100	8
SILVER BOW COUNTY	12	38892	3910.8	1521	2	9	18	181	332	900	79
Butte-Silver Bow Combined	12	38892	3910.8	1521	2	9	18	181	332	900	79
STILLWATER COUNTY	12	5736	1830.5	105	0	1	2	12	21	66	3
Sheriff	12	5736	1830.5	105	0	1	2	12	21	66	3
SWEETGRASS COUNTY	12	3291	1883.9	62	0	1	0	3	17	39	2
Sheriff	12	3291	1883.9	62	0	1	0	3	17	39	2
TETON COUNTY	12	6646	1203.7	80	0	0	0	4	23	47	6
Sheriff	12	6646	1203.7	80	0	0	0	4	23	47	6
TOOLE COUNTY	7	5706	595.9	34	0	0	0	2	17	12	3
Sheriff	7	5706	595.9	34	0	0	0	2	17	12	3
TREASURE COUNTY	12	1005	895.5	9	1	0	0	3	0	0	5
Sheriff	12	1005	895.5	9	1	0	0	3	0	0	5
VALLEY COUNTY	12	10503	2827.8	297	0	1	0	11	39	230	16
Sheriff	12	5934	1533.5	91	0	1	0	1	19	63	7
Glasgow	12	4569	4508.6	206	0	0	0	10	20	167	9
WHEATLAND COUNTY	12	2410	1286.3	31	0	1	0	4	4	21	1
Sheriff	12	2410	1286.3	31	0	1	0	4	4	21	1
WIBAUX COUNTY	12	1516	4815.3	73	0	0	1	4	11	51	6
Sheriff	12	1516	4815.3	73	0	0	1	4	11	51	6
YELLOWSTONE COUNTY	12	110617	5802.9	6419	1	25	86	169	1411	4354	373
Sheriff	12	34954	3999.5	1398	0	1	9	109	278	919	82
Laurel	12	5605	5334.5	299	0	0	0	19	65	205	10
Billings	12	70058	6740.1	4722	1	24	77	41	1068	3230	281
GLACIER NATIONAL PARK	12			79	0	0	0	2	6	70	1
STATE TOTAL		801000	4306.5	34495	27	128	280	1335	6509	24225	1991

1. DID NOT REPORT means the agency did not report data to the Criminal Justice Data Center during the year 1982.

2. The crime rate per 100,000 population is given for each agency as if a full twelve months data had been submitted. "P" after the county name in the "months contributing" column denotes a county in which some of the contributing agencies reported for less than 12 months. The crime rate per 100,000 for these counties may appear lower than it would have if a full 12 months data had been available for all agencies within the county.

3. The 1982 population figures were obtained from the F.B.I. and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. F.B.I. figures were based on U.S. Bureau of the Census estimates.

4. The crime rate of 4306.5 for Montana is based on the total state population estimate of 801,000. If the crime rate is computed only for the population of those agencies which reported a full twelve months data in 1982, the crime rate increases to 4692.9 for a population of 730,011 and a crime index of 34,259.

5. The crime rates for some cities are not listed individually because their crime reports are submitted through the sheriff's office.

SECTION FOUR

**JUVENILE PROBATION INFORMATION SYSTEM
(J.P.I.S)**

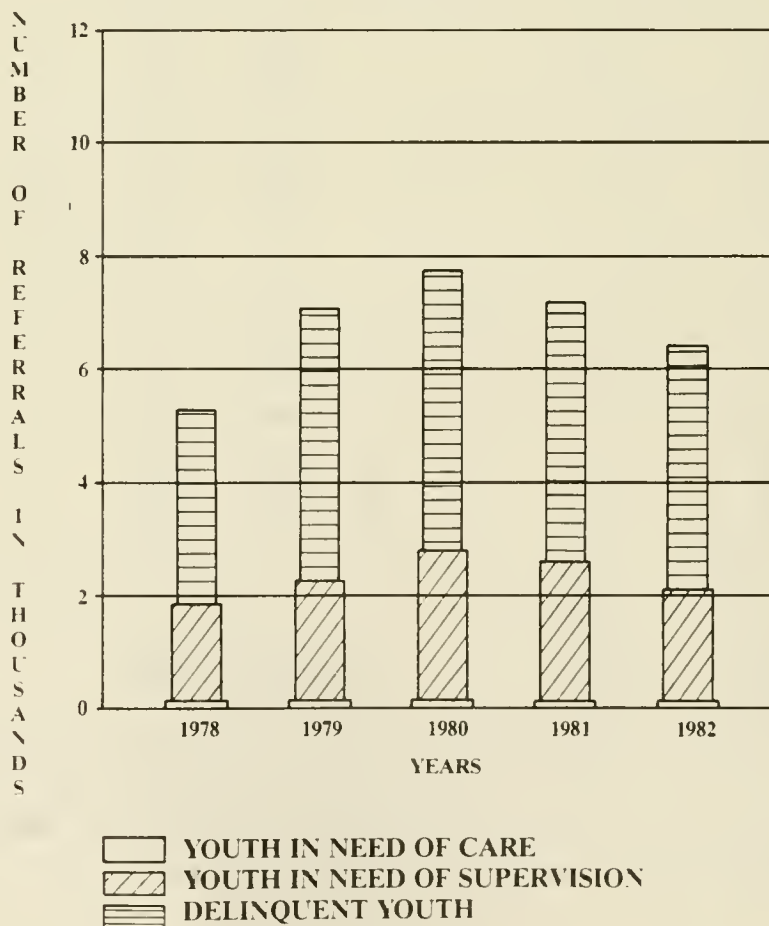
INTRODUCTION

The Montana Youth Courts participating in the Juvenile Probation Information System (J.P.I.S.) in 1982 handled a total of 4,936 individual youth. Each youth was referred to the courts an average of 1.3 times for a total of 6,422 referrals and 8,210 total offenses. Both referrals and offenses have declined since 1980 when there were 7,558 youth referrals from 10,153 offenses. The reasons for the decline are diverse and elusive. This report will not attempt to draw conclusions about this trend. Readers are encouraged to contact their local youth court officials and discuss the data for their jurisdiction and potential reasons for increases or decreases.

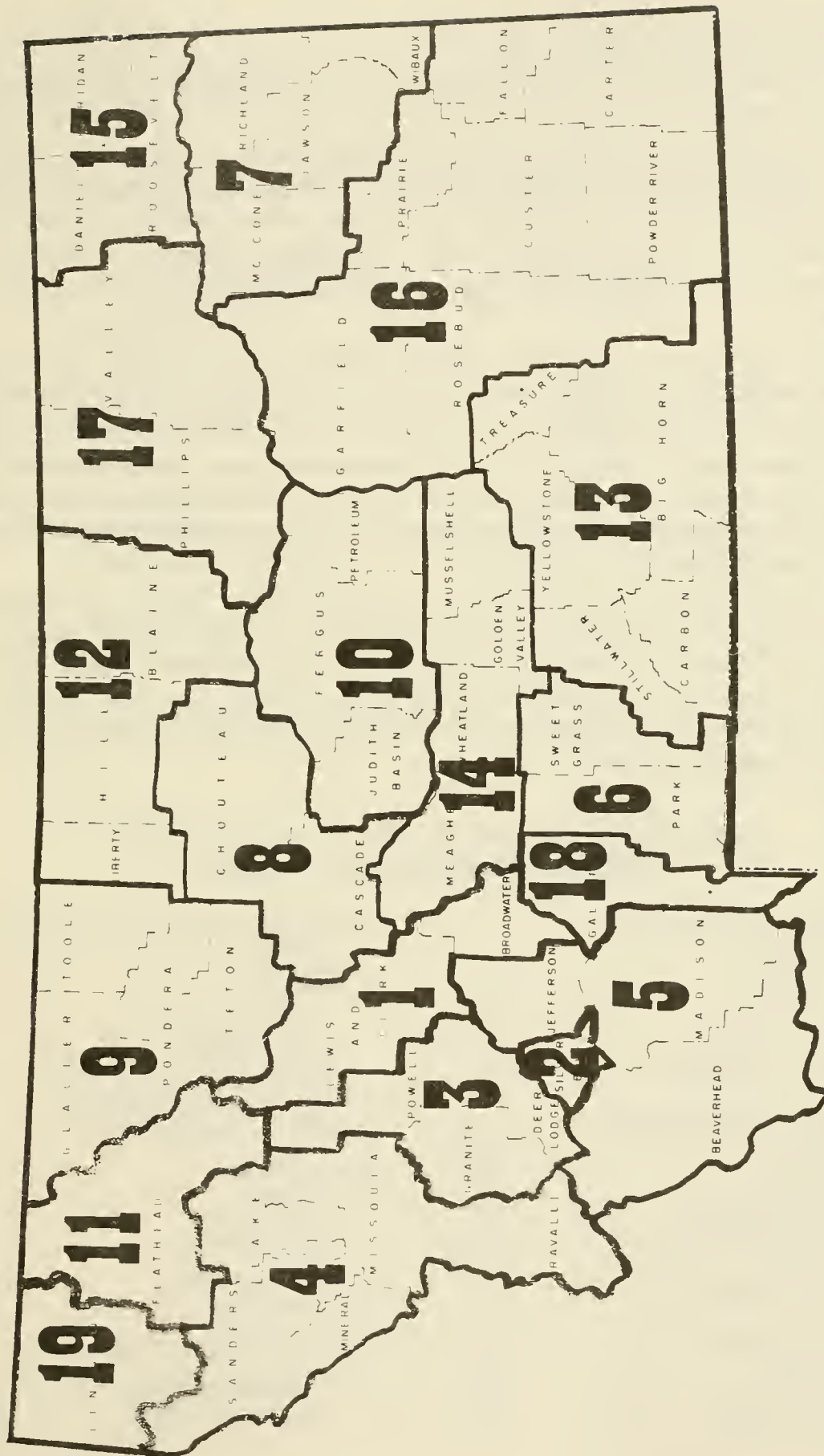
The youth court basically has jurisdiction over delinquent youth and youth in need of supervision. A delinquent youth is a youth who commits any criminal offense. A youth in need of supervision is a youth who has committed an offense which is illegal only for minors. Such offenses include, but are not limited to, runaway, truancy, and liquor violations. Youth in need of supervision are commonly referred to as status offenders and the offenses they commit are called status offenses.

MONTANA YOUTH COURT REFERRALS

1978 TO 1982



1982 MONTANA YOUTH COURT DISTRICTS



REASONS FOR REFERRAL

The Youth Court population has historically been composed of a high proportion of criminal offenders (delinquents) as opposed to non-criminal status offenders. Two-thirds of the 1982 referrals were for criminal acts of delinquency.

The chart below shows a breakdown of Montana Youth Court activity in 1982. The offenses and activities listed are composed of individual statutes which have been grouped into related categories. The categories are "Crimes Against Persons", "Crimes Against Property", "Drug Offenses", "Offenses Against the Public Order", and "Status Offenses".

The major reason for referral in 1982 of delinquent youth to Youth Court was for crimes against property. Various types of larceny accounted for 51 percent of these property crimes, with misdemeanor theft accounting for almost one-third of the larcenies.

Offenses against the public order were the next leading reason for delinquent referrals, followed by referrals for drug offenses. Although violent crimes against persons accounted for the smallest percentage of delinquent referrals in 1982, they still represented 3.7 percent of referrals for a total of 237 offenses.

The status offenders constituted about one-third of the Youth Court population. There were 2,013 status offenses in 1982. Liquor violations and runaways were the leading reasons for referral. The number of youth shown as liquor violators reflects only those youth who were sent to the Youth Court. The number of youth who violate liquor laws is larger than shown here because the lower courts share jurisdiction over these offenders and handle the majority of cases.

1982 MONTANA YOUTH COURT ACTIVITY BY TYPE OF OFFENSE OR ACTIVITY

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS		OFFENSES AGAINST THE PUBLIC ORDER	
Criminal Homicide	1	Weapons	11
Forcible Rape	4	Sex Offenses	44
Robbery	6	Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants	35
Aggravated Assault	27	Disturbing the Peace	244
Simple Assault	193	Escape, Contempt, Probation, Parole	180
Other Person Offenses	6	Traffic Crime	184
Total Crime Against Persons	237	Other Offenses Against Public Order	86
CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY		Total Offenses Against Public Order	784
Burglary	373	STATUS OFFENSES	
Larceny	1,480	Runaway	629
Motor Vehicle Theft	159	Curfew/Loitering	246
Arson & Vandalism	559	Ungovernable	352
Stolen Property Offenses	36	Liquor	684
Trespassing	213	Other Status Offenses	102
Other Property Offenses	70	Total Status Offenses	2,013
Total Crimes Against Property	2,890	NON-OFFENSE RELATED ACTIVITY	
DRUG OFFENSES		Total Non-Offense Related Activity	128
Narcotics	120	TOTAL ALL OFFENSES	
Non-Narcotics	250	6,422	
Total Drug Offenses	370		

In 1982, 69.7% of the youths referred to Montana Youth Courts were referred for one of the following ten violations. The violations are listed in descending order from the one which occurred most frequently.

**THE TEN VIOLATIONS WHICH ARE THE MOST FREQUENT
REASONS FOR REFERRAL TO MONTANA YOUTH COURTS**

VIOLATION WHICH CAUSED REFERRAL	NUMBERS OF YOUTH REFERRALS
Misdemeanor Theft	888
Liquor Violation	682
Runaway	629
Criminal Mischief	444
Shoplifting	392
Burglary	368
Ungovernable	352
Possession of Intoxicating Substance by Children	248
Curfew Violation	244
Disorderly Conduct	228
TOTAL OF TEN VIOLATIONS	4475

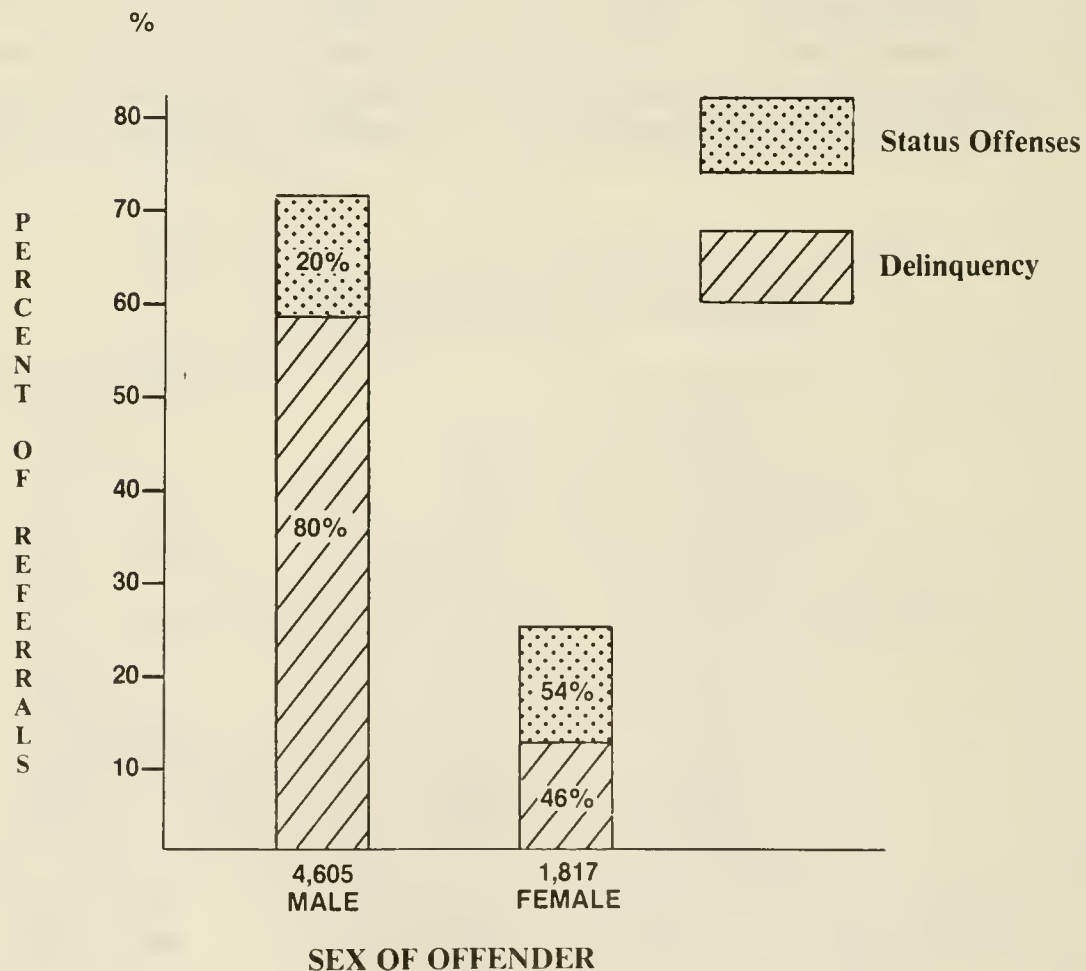
THE YOUTH COURT POPULATION

Sex

The Youth Court population in 1982 was predominantly male. Seventy-two percent of the overall population was male compared to 28 percent female. The types of offenses committed by males and females differed considerably. Eighty percent of the males were referred for delinquency and the remaining 20 percent were referred for status offenses. This compares to 46 percent of female referrals for delinquency and 54 percent for status offenses.

The chart below shows the breakdown of male and female youth court referrals by reason for referral.

**MONTANA YOUTH COURT REFERRALS — 1982
BY SEX OF OFFENDER AND REASON FOR REFERRAL**



Age

The jurisdiction of Montana's Youth Courts generally ends when a youth turns 18. In some circumstances the courts may handle 18 year olds who are under their jurisdiction or have other special problems. The following chart illustrates the age distribution of the youths referred in 1982.

YOUTH REFERRED TO MONTANA YOUTH COURTS IN 1982 BY AGE AT TIME OF REFERRAL

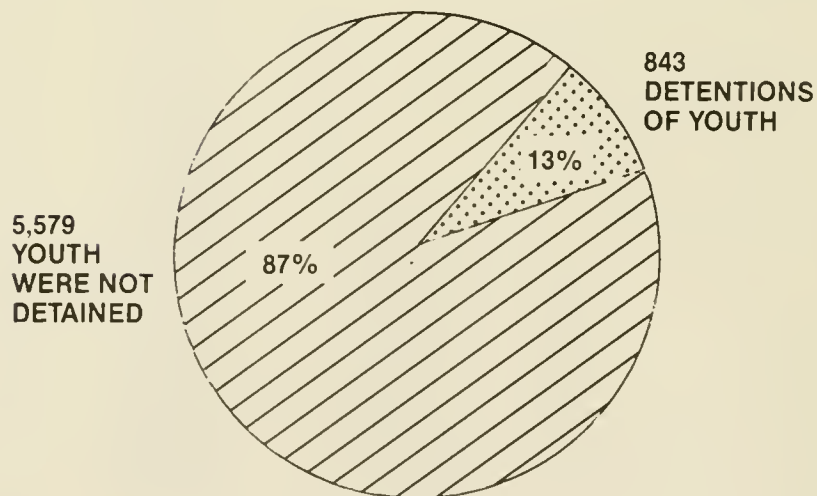
AGE	NUMBER OF REFERRALS	PERCENT OF REFERRALS
0- 8	110	1.7
9	67	1.0
10	119	1.9
11	193	3.0
12	308	4.8
13	580	9.0
14	777	12.1
15	1,202	18.7
16	1,470	22.9
17	1,526	23.8
<u>18 and over</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>1.1</u>
TOTAL	6,422	100.0

Detention

A small number of the youth referred to Youth Court spend time in detention while awaiting court appearances. These youth are placed in county jails under the authority of local Youth Courts. There were 843 detentions in 1982, representing 715 individual youth. Thirteen percent of the youth processed by Montana Youth Courts in 1982 spent some time in jail.

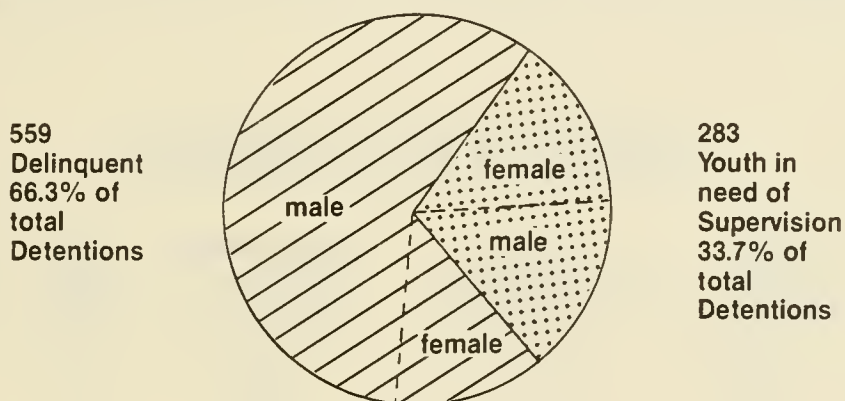
The numbers of youth in detention has steadily dropped since the inception of shelter-care in 1976. Sheltercare is an alternative to jail in which the youth lives in a supervised group home or foster home while awaiting court action. Detention does not include time spent after sentencing in correctional facilities such as Pine Hills School for Boys, Mountain View School for Girls, or Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch.

1982 RATE OF DETENTION AS A PERCENT OF 6,422 TOTAL YOUTH COURT REFERRALS

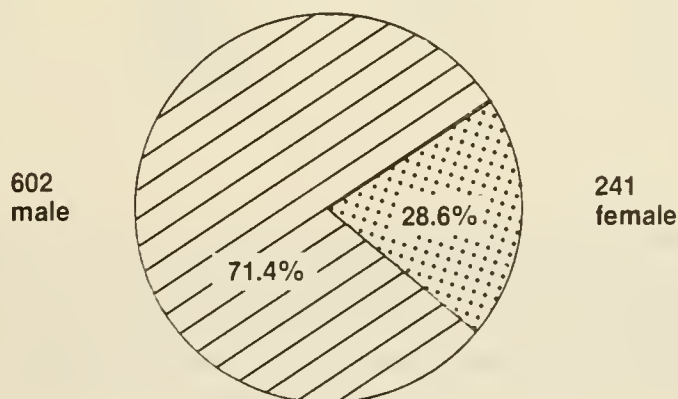


In 1982, 66.3 percent of detained youth were delinquent and 33.7 percent were youth in need of supervision. A majority of the youth in need of supervision were charged with runaway, while the delinquent youths were most frequently charged with burglary. The male offender accounted for 81.4 percent of the delinquent cases and the female offenders contributed the remaining 18.6 percent. There was an almost equal division of males and females who were classified as youth in need of supervision.

TYPE OF YOUTH DETAINED IN 1982 BY CLASSIFICATION AND SEX OF YOUTH



Of the 843 total youth detained, 71.4 percent were male and 28.6 percent were female.



Length of Detention

The average length of detention in 1982 was about 71 hours. The "1 to 2 day" time period was the most frequently utilized length of detention, representing 20.4 percent of the total cases. Sixty percent of the youth are held less than two days.

The number of youth detained has dropped steadily over the past five years. As the total has dropped, we have seen an increase in the average length of time spent in jail. This indicates that the average youth detained today is accused of an offense more likely to warrant detention than the youth who was jailed in the past.

The following chart shows the distribution of periods of time that juveniles are held in detention. While a majority of youth are detained for short periods of time, a small part of the population is detained for over five days. The youth detained over 5 days represented only 15.5 percent of the population, but they accounted for over half of the total hours of detention. Each of these youths spent an average of 257.3 hours, over ten days, in detention.

LENGTH OF DETENTION AND FREQUENCY OF OCCURRENCE

LENGTH OF STAY	# OF YOUTH DETAINED	% OF TOTAL YOUTH DETAINED	TOTAL HOURS SPENT IN DETENTION	% OF TOTAL HOURS	AVERAGE TIME SPENT PER YOUTH
0- 4 hrs.	93	11.0	149.8	.3	1.6
4-12 hrs.	87	10.3	722.2	1.2	8.3
12-24 hrs.	157	18.6	2,622.6	4.4	16.7
1- 2 days	172	20.4	6,324.7	10.6	36.8
2- 3 days	107	12.7	6,642.7	11.1	62.1
3- 4 days	46	5.5	4,020.7	6.7	87.4
4- 5 days	50	5.9	5,586.4	9.3	111.7
5+ days	<u>131</u>	15.5	<u>33,704.8</u>	56.4	257.3
	843		59,773.9		

Repeat Offenders

The common belief that a small number of juveniles commit a disproportionate share of offenses is born out by the Youth Court data. In 1982, 5.4 percent of the youth handled by the court were referred three or more times. These youth accounted for 18 percent of the total referrals. Over the five year period 1977 to 1981, 5.5 percent of the youth were referred five or more times and accounted for 22 percent of the referrals.

Conversely, most youth had only one referral to Youth Court in 1982. Eighty one percent of the youths referred in 1982 responded to the Youth Court action and did not come to the formal attention of the Youth Court again. Sixty-eight percent of the youth were referred only once over the five year period.

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